

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-13 M-03 A-01 SY-10 EB-11 SCA-01 AID-20

ARA-11 EA-11 RSR-01 /194 W

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R 181707 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1986

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY SANAA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 7050

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR, PINT, YE, YS

SUBJECT: PDRY DENIES ROLE IN ASSASSINATION OF YAR

VICE- PRESIDENT UTHMAN

1. FCO PASSED US FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT UNCLASSIFIED  
FROM ADEN JUNE 11. TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

2. " THE FOREIGN MINISTER TODAY SUMMONED ME TO A MEETING  
ALSO ATTENDED BY MY FRENCH AND ITALIAN COLLEAGUES.  
SIMILAR MEETINGS WERE HELD YESTERDAY WITH OTHER HEADS OF  
MISSION.

3. " HE ASKED US TO CONVEY TO OUR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS  
PDRY' S POSITION TOWARDS YAR FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION  
THERE OF MUHAMMED ALI UTHMAN ON 30 MAY. FOLLOWING ARE  
THE MAIN POINTS FROM HIS STATEMENT.

4. " NEWS OF UTHMAN' S DEATH HAD COME AS A GREAT SHOCK.  
THE PDRY PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL HAD DECLARED 3 DAYS OF  
NATIONAL MOURNING AND HAD SENT A DELEGATION TO ATTEND  
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THE FUNERAL IN YAR. REGRETTABLY THE YAR AUTHORITIES HAD REFUSED TO ACCEPT THIS DELEGATION AND HAD INDIRECTLY ACCUSED PDRY OF IMPLICATION IN THE ASSASSINATION. IN THIS RESPECT THE YAR GOVERNMENT HAD ALSO SENT PRO-PAGANDA MISSIONS TO OTHER COUNTRIES, THE SOLE PURPOSE OF WHICH WAS TO DAMAGE PDRY- YAR RELATIONS.

5. " SO FAR PDRY HAD MADE NO REPLY TO THESE ACCUSATIONS AND HAD ACTED WITH ALL RESTRAINT. THE FOREIGN MINISTER NOW WISHED TO STATE THAT PDRY REGRDS UTHMAN' S ASSASSINATION AS THE RESULT OF YAR INTERNAL CONFLICT AND DENIES ANY INVOLVEMENT. ELEMENTS IN YAR HOSTILE TO UNITY WITH PDRY ARE SIMPLY EXPLOITING THE EVENT FOR THEIR OWN ENDS.

6. " PDRY CONTINUES TO TRY TO IMPLEMENT THE TRIPOLI AGREEMENT ON UNITY IN THE FACE OF OBSTACLES CREATED ONLY BY YAR. EXAMPLES OF SUCH OBSTACLES WERE THE REPLACEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER MUSHIN AL- AINI, WHO HAD FAVORED UNITY BY ABDULLAH AL- HIGRI WHO DID NOT; CONTINUED HOSTILITY BY POWERFUL NORTH YEMENI TRIBAL LEADERS; AND YAR' S FAILURE TO CONSULT PDRY BEFORE CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT WITH SAUDI ARABIA OVER DEMARCATION OF ITS BORDERS. FURTHER EVIDENCE OF YAR' S HOSTILITY IS THE IMPRISONMENT IN SANAA OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE YAR' S OWN TECHNICAL COMMITTEES ON UNITY FOLLOWING THEIR OFFICIAL VISITS TO ADEN, THE CANCELLATION NOW OF ALL FURTHER UNITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS, AND RECENT RANDOM ARRESTS OF SOUTH YEMENI NATIONALS.

7. " PRIOR TO UTHMAN' S DEATH PDRY HAD PROPOSED TO YAR MEASURES TO REDUCE THE DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN THEM. THESE INCLUDED A SUMMIT MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES PRESIDENTS, AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOP CONCENTRATIONS FROM BORDER AREAS TOGETHER WITH THE CREATION OF A JOINT FORCE TO SUPERVISE ITS IMPLEMENTATION. YAR HAD REJECTED THESE PROPOSALS AND HAD NOW REOCCUPIED BORDER AREAS EVACUATED AFTER THE LAST CEASE- FIRE AGREEMENT.

8. " FINALLY, THE FOREIGN MINISTER EMPHASIZED THE PDRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENT' S WISH TO AVOID WAR WITH YAR AND ITS PARAMOUNT CONCERN WITH PEACEFUL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THE PDRY GOVERNMENT HOPED THAT CURRENT DIFFICULTIES IN PDRY/ YAR RELATIONS WOULD BE RAPIDLY RESOLVED. HE STRESSED HOWEVER THAT PDRY WAS NEVERTHELESS READY TO DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST ALL AGGRESSION."

ANNENBERG

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, YE, YS  
**To:** JIDDA  
NEA  
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